



# Fort Sam Houston News Leader



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Fort Sam Houston – Home of Army Medicine

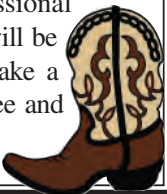
Feb. 1, 2007

## Briefs . . .



### 'Cowboys for Heroes' celebration

A "Cowboys for Heroes" celebration will be held Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Equestrian Center, Building 3550, on Hawkins Road off of Binz-Engleman Road, just before entering the Binz-Engleman gate. The free, two-day celebration includes 10 "1800s-style" chuck-wagons with free authentic cowboy food, a variety of country and western bands, old-time storytellers and cowboy poets. Rodeo cowboys from the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association will be on hand, and attendees can take a free trail ride. The event is free and open to the post community.



### SAEDA, OPSEC training

Subversion and Espionage Directed Against the U.S. Army and Operations Security training will be held today from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Evans Theater. A sign interpreter will be present. People should arrive early to sign in. Department of Defense personnel, to include contract employees, are required to take the training annually. Other sessions will be held throughout the year. For more information, call the Garrison Security Office at 221-1906, 221-1859 or 221-9500.

### Army Medical Command Band recitals

The Army Medical Command Band will present a recital Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Brooke Army Medical Center Medical Mall and Tuesday at the San Antonio Museum of Arts, 200 W. Jones Ave. Various chamber ensembles will perform.

### Stock Show & Rodeo military days

Military Family Appreciation Days will be held Feb. 2, 9 and 16 at the 2007 Stock Show and Rodeo. Active duty military personnel and their families will receive free admission to the grounds with a military ID card. Military families can upgrade their admission to attend the rodeo or concert by purchasing a rodeo ticket for \$6 at the Rodeo Ticket Office located on the southwest corner of the AT&T Center. Parking admission is not included. For more information, call 221-2606 or 221-9904.

### Black History Month luncheon

Fort Sam Houston will commemorate Black History Month with a luncheon Feb. 8 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club. The guest speaker will be Master Sgt. Lee Coffee. Tickets are \$10. For tickets or more information, call Gayle Ellis at 221-7709, Jonnell Player at 221-1582, Rosemary Galvan at 221-0218, Master Sgt. Ricky Evans at 295-0561 or contact a unit equal opportunity adviser prior to Friday.

### Lackland gate changes

With home station and worldwide commitments at an all-time high for security forces, the Lackland Air Force Base Bergquist Gate, located in front of the Wilford Hall Medical Center, will no longer be open for 24-hour access. Effective Feb. 12, Bergquist Gate will be closed from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. Monday through Friday and on federal holidays and weekends. Personnel, patients and visitors can access Wilford Hall through the Gateway East (Luke) Gate, where the Lackland Air Force Base Visitor's Center is located.

See BRIEFS on Page 3



Photos by U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. D. Myles Cullen

Service members cut the ceremonial ribbon for the Center for the Intrepid, a state-of-the-art physical rehabilitation center, Monday. Two new Fisher Houses, a home away from home for hospitalized military members' families, also opened with a ribbon cutting.

## Center for the Intrepid opens in style

### Two Fisher Houses poised to meet family's needs

By Elaine Wilson

Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

Thanks to the generosity of 600,000 Americans, wounded warriors now have a \$50 million state-of-the-art physical rehabilitation facility.

The Center for the Intrepid, designed for service members wounded in operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, opened at Fort Sam Houston Monday along with two new Fisher Houses during a ceremony that included speeches from Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Marine Gen. Peter Pace and Deputy Secretary of Defense Gordon England. R. James Nicholson, secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs also spoke at the ceremony.

"There are those who speak about (wounded warriors) today — 'He lost an arm. He lost a leg. She lost her sight.' I object," Pace told the injured troops in attendance. "You gave an arm, you gave a leg, you gave your sight as gifts to your nation that we might live in freedom."

The \$50 million center was built entirely from private funds through the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund, which provides assistance to the nation's military heroes injured in the performance of duty and their families.

See INTREPID OPENS on Page 12



Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff U.S. Marine Gen. Peter Pace and Staff Sgt. Victor Dominguez talk before the ceremony.

## Army vice chief awards medals at new rehab center

By Elaine Wilson

Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

With the star-studded grand opening just a day away, Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Richard A. Cody officiated over the first awards ceremony at the Center for the Intrepid Sunday.

The official dedication of the \$50 million, state-of-the-art rehabilitation center for wounded warriors Monday was slated to draw a crowd of 3,000, along with a slew of celebrities and politicians, to include Sens. Hillary Clinton and John

McCain, and entertainers Michelle Pfeiffer, John Mellencamp and Rosie O'Donnell.

On Sunday, however, Cody's focus was not on the grand opening or the celebrity cast, but on Master Sgt. Daniel Robles, who was being honored with a Purple Heart and Bronze Star in the lobby of the new center.

"We have a warrior ethos in the Army that Sgt. Robles has lived up to all of his career, and certainly on that day in April 2006 in Baghdad when he was serving as an NCO, leading Soldiers when he was

injured," the general said.

The mortar platoon sergeant was injured April 8, 2006, while on a patrol in southern Baghdad. Robles was riding in the lead vehicle of a convoy when it hit an improvised explosive device. Robles was riddled with shrapnel and lost both of his legs below the knee as a result of the explosion.

"Since then he's been going back and living that ethos of mission first, never accepting defeat, never quitting and never leaving a fallen comrade," Cody said.

See AWARDS MEDALS on Page 4



# DoDEA schools want teacher, parent, student feedback

**ARLINGTON, Va.** — Students, parents and teachers have until Feb. 28 to respond to the Department of Defense Education Activity’s Customer Satisfaction Survey.

Conducted every other year, the survey provides feedback to DoDEA about the quality of education it provides and areas needing improvement.

Separate surveys are available for teachers, parents, students in grades four to five, students in grades six to eight and students in grades nine to 12.

The surveys were developed through a review process of various groups, including the Department of Defense Dependents Schools and Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools teachers’

unions, DoDEA teachers of the year, superintendents, principals, students and Education Directorate staff members at the DoDEA headquarters.

The voluntary survey takes about 20 minutes to complete and is available online at [www.dodea.edu](http://www.dodea.edu) by clicking on the CSS link. Where Internet access is a concern, an electronic version of the surveys will be available for printing.

Dr. Janet F. Rope, DoDEA administrator, system accountability and research, is encouraging everyone — parents, students and teachers — worldwide to participate in the survey.

“A high response rate provides our schools with valuable information about their programs and is part of our continual efforts to improve the

quality of education provided to DoD dependents,” she said.

Information derived from the surveys will be used to improve planning efforts at all levels throughout DoDEA. Schools, districts and areas will use the survey results to gain insight into the satisfaction levels of sponsors and students, which is one of many measures used for future planning of student programs and services.

Survey results will also be used to monitor the DoDEA Community Strategic Plan, which contains the strategic direction for the organization through year 2011.

For more information about the survey, call 703-588-3260 or visit the DoDEA Web site at [www.dodea.edu](http://www.dodea.edu).  
(Source: DoDEA)

## *Voting slogan contest*

The Federal Voting Assistance Program seeks entries for the 2007 Voting Slogan Contest.

The contest is an effort to promote interest in the democratic process among citizens covered under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, for members of the uniformed services, the Merchant Marine, their families and all U.S. citizens residing outside the United States.

People are invited to create a simple slogan that expresses the importance of voting or a slogan that may inspire someone to vote and submit it to the FVAP. The deadline for submissions is April 9.

The winning slogan will be featured in the FVAP’s 2008 information campaign.

For more information or for toll-free fax numbers, visit the FVAP Web site at <http://www.fvap.gov/>.  
(Source: FVAP)

### *Fort Sam Houston News Leader*

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# HHC guidon changes hands at U.S. Army South

By Eric Atkisson  
USARSO Public Affairs Office

The guidon of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, United States Army South, changed hands Friday in a ceremony at the Roadrunner Community Center.

The outgoing commander was Capt. John F. Vann Sr., a native of Henderson, N.C. Vann enlisted in 1990 and served as a warrant officer before being commissioned an ordnance lieutenant in 2001. He came to USARSO in October 2004 as the maintenance operations officer, following a tour in South Korea as a company commander and battalion S-4 in 1-43rd ADA Battalion (Patriot).

Vann took command of HHC Feb. 2, 2006.

"This was a really good experience for me," said Vann, crediting USARSO's Command Sgt. Maj. Armando Ramirez and Chief of Staff Col. Dan Meyer with giving him great support and mentorship during his command. "The Soldiers and civilians I worked with here are the best, and I'm going to miss them."

Vann's next assignment is maintenance operations officer for a Military Transition Team in Iraq, "one of the most difficult jobs in the Army," said Meyer,

who served as the reviewing officer for the ceremony.

Taking the guidon from Vann was Maj. Andrew Ajamian, a ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He served as an infantry platoon leader and S-4 in the 25th Infantry and 40th Armored Divisions, followed by tours as an assistant S-3 and HHC commander in the 10th Mountain Division, an assistant professor of military science at The University of Alabama, and a coalition plans officer for Third Army in Kuwait. He reported to USARSO in July 2005 and served as a strategic plans officer, then as the chief, plans division in the G-3.

"I feel very honored and privileged to be your company commander," Ajamian said to the Soldiers gathered in the community center.

He also thanked his wife, Cindy, and their two daughters for their support.

"I know you didn't expect another company command," he said to them, in a wry line that drew laughter from the audience, "so ... Merry Christmas."

Brig. Gen. Ken Keen, the USARSO commander, congratulated Ajamian on his selection as company commander during one of the most critical periods on



Photo by Jose Saez

Maj. Andrew Ajamian accepts the guidon of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army South, from USARSO Chief of Staff Col. Dan Meyer.

USARSO's history.

"It's significant that a major assumed command of HHC," Keen said. "It represents the level of responsibility and

experience needed to command such a large and complex organization, particularly as we transform to USARSO (6th Army)."

## Pistol qualification added to C4 curriculum

Story and photos by Navy Lt. Brian Haack  
Defense Medical Readiness Training Institute Public Affairs Office

U.S. Navy Medical Department officers who graduate from the Combat Casualty Care Course, informally known as "C4," will now have the opportunity to leave with a new medal or ribbon and a formal qualification for the 9 mm service pistol.

C4 is an eight-day, tri-service continuing medical education program designed to enhance the operational medical readiness skills of physicians, nurses, physician assistants, dentists and other specialty health care providers with minimal field exposure.

The Defense Medical Readiness Training Institute staff has written curricula, received requisite training, safety equipment and permission to incorporate a pistol qualifica-

tion range for Navy officers who graduate from the C4 course. The pistol qualification course represents a new concept in modular training introduced by DMRTI's commanding officer, Air Force Col. Courtney Scott.

"Military training commands have a special responsibility to respond to the rapidly evolving needs of the services in the post 9/11 era," Scott said.

Scott added that although hospital commanders are charged with the responsibility to send trained officers to augment fighting forces in theater, the demand for clinical appointment spaces often makes it difficult, if not impossible, to excuse doctors, nurses and other clinicians from their duties to attain the wide range of operational qualifications they should have.

Navy Lt. Sarah Escott is one of the first Navy graduates of C4 since the pistol range was added. With only six months of active duty under her belt, Escott, a Medical Corps officer stationed at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., said the experience was "exciting and empowering."

She added that before her training at C4, she had never touched a weapon. Although she doesn't feel like a thoroughly qualified professional with the 9 mm service pistol yet, she did say that she now feels more confident that if she had to use a weapon in the performance of her duties, she could. She can indeed — Escott finished the range with a score of 238, which qualifies her as a sharpshooter.

These are the kinds of success stories that are music to the ears of Scott. "We have been able to add a pistol qualification course without lengthening the C4 course. We hope that our responsiveness to the Navy's needs will



Dr. Sarah Escott, a Navy lieutenant stationed at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., receives a critique of her performance on the firing range at the Combat Casualty Care Course from her instructor, Air Force Staff Sgt. Robert Dibiase.

encourage the other services to communicate better with us and give us a chance to serve their needs better too."

This module is just one of the many changes planned for the course. Scott issued a written challenge to his staff to "find people to help and find ways to help that have never been thought of before."

"I expect the pistol qualification range is just the first of many meaningful changes that are on the horizon for our customers," he said. "I have ideas of my own, but I'm really looking forward to what results from the ingenuity of my staff as they take the reigns and drive changes for the future of medical department training."



Navy students receive detailed instruction and an opportunity to qualify with the 9 mm service pistol as part of their training at the newly revamped Combat Casualty Care Course.

## Briefs

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### Traffic safety classes

Local Hazards Training and Intermediate Traffic Safety Training classes will be held Feb. 8 from 8 to 11 a.m. at Building 2247, on the corner of Stanley and New Braunfels roads; and Feb. 22, March 8 and 22 from 8 to 11 a.m. at Building 4196 in the Public Works Scheduling Room. Local Hazards Training is

required for Army personnel newly assigned to an Army installation, and Intermediate Traffic Safety Training is required for Soldiers under age 26 newly assigned to an Army installation. For more information or to register, call Richard Edges at 221-3857 or e-mail richard.edges@samhouston.army.mil.

### National Prayer Breakfast

The installation chaplain will host the

Army Medical Department Center and School and Fort Sam Houston National Prayer Breakfast Feb. 14 from 6:15 to 8 a.m. at the Sam Houston Club. The guest speaker will be Army Chief of Chaplains Maj. Gen. David H. Hicks. The cost is a \$2 donation. For tickets, contact a Unit Ministry Team member.

### Focus group participants needed

The Directorate of Morale, Welfare

and Recreation needs individuals to participate in a focus group discussion Feb. 21. The focus group will discuss possible restructuring opportunities at the Sam Houston Club. Information collected from participants will be used to supplement relevant survey findings. The deadline for sign up is Feb. 15. To sign up or for more information, call 221-9904.



# 79th EOD pays last respects to Fort Sam Soldier

By **Spc. Laura M. Bigenho**  
28th Public Affairs Detachment

**CAMP VICTORY, Iraq** — Soldiers and friends of Staff Sgt. Michael J. Wiggins paid their respects at a memorial service at Victory Chapel Saturday.

The 26-year-old Cleveland native died of non-combat injuries Jan. 23 at a military base in Balad, Iraq.

Wiggins was assigned to the 79th Ordnance Battalion (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) at Fort Sam Houston. He deployed to Iraq in September.

Soldiers in attendance portrayed Wiggins as a loving, competitive individual with a comical side. He had a unique language, substituting some words with others to give them new meaning, said Staff Sgt. Deleon McClure. He described Wiggins as “infectious.”

“He’d say things and they’d start to grow on you,” he said.

McClure also described Wiggins as a highly motivated Soldier who could recite just about every Army regulation. He loved playing cards, football, soccer and basketball.

“He was a true competitor,” McClure said. “If you go to Balad, you’ll see his picture hanging on the wall of the (Morale, Welfare and Recreation Center). He was a poker



Soldiers pay their respects to Staff Sgt. Michael J. Wiggins, 26, of Cleveland during a memorial service at Camp Victory, Iraq, Saturday. The ammunition supply sergeant died in Balad from non-combat injuries Jan. 23. He served with the 79th Ordnance Battalion (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) at Fort Sam Houston.

champion up there.”

Wiggins graduated from Shaw High School in 1998, where he was a member of the ROTC. He enlisted in the Army as a private first class in August 1998, and completed basic combat training at Fort Jackson, S.C.

Wiggins then attended advanced individual training at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., where he became an ammunition specialist. His first assignment was Fort Hood, Texas.

Wiggins deployed to Kuwait in 2004. In September 2005, he was assigned to the 79th Ordnance Battalion (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) at Fort Sam Houston as an ammunition supply specialist. He deployed to Iraq as an ammunition supply sergeant a year later.

Wiggins’ military awards and decorations include the Army Achievement Medal, two Army Good Conduct Medals, the Iraqi Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, two NCO Professional Development Ribbons, the Army Service Ribbon and the Overseas Service Ribbon. He graduated from Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course with honors.

“Staff Sgt. Wiggins is a hero because of how he lived,” said Lt. Col. Marue Quick, battalion commander. “We will remember not his death, but the victories he gained, his kindness, thoughtfulness, love for family and friends and his great sense of humor.”

Wiggins is survived by his father, Anthony Wiggins, and mother, Valerie Wiggins.

## Taking care of business

### *DPW workers brave ice storm to keep post residents safe, warm*

By **Elaine Wilson**  
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

When the ice storm hit two weeks ago, most San Antonio businesses, schools and government facilities, to include Fort Sam Houston, shut down for two days.

While most residents took the news in stride and curled back up under their covers or in front of their seldom-used fireplaces, dozens of Department of Public Works employees backed out of their slippery driveways to brave the elements, navigating detours and back roads to make it into work.

Rich Aguillon drove in from out near Sea World. With most of the major highways shut down, it took the mason two hours to get to work Jan. 17. “It was even worse getting home,” he said. “But I was glad to be able to do that. We were get-

ting calls all day.”

The workers de-iced steps so Soldiers who train and live at Fort Sam Houston could get to the dining facility or the medical clinic, checked roadways and bridges for ice and fallen limbs and responded to about 50 heat calls.

“Situations like this one is when we shine, when we are needed the most,” said Steve Sisk, chief, operations and maintenance. “They weren’t required to come in but they did.

“Their dedication validated what we always knew,” Sisk said. “We come through in a crisis.”

Post leaders thanked the workers for their efforts during an awards ceremony Jan. 25. Mike Waldrop, deputy to the U.S. Army Garrison commander, awarded 50 DPW employees with “on the spot” awards on behalf of Garrison Commander

See **DPW WORKERS** on Page 5

### *Ice storm award recipients:*

Howard Benavides	Sergio Zertuche	Juan Ramirez
Linda Hall	Danny Mendoza	David Hall
Donald S Akins	Frank Aguilar	Mike Latka
Bill Henderson	Richard Garcia	Raymond Rangel
Al Lopez	Larry Pribyla	Cleve Carroll
Ronald Hayes	Albert Calderon	Wayne Cusack
Daniel Flores	Benjamin Sperling	Mike Rodriguez
Jessie Padron	Richard Gannaway	Albert Wiatrek
Louis Rivera	Douglas Campbell	Kelly Kane
Leroy Martinez	David Wilson	Valentin Luna
James Johnson	Mike Gann	Jerry Arrendondo
Arnold Rodriguez	Lawrence Hernandez	Juan Campos
Gary Stahl	Eddie Rodrigues	Rich Aguillon
Albert Meyer	Max Schmidt	Charles Travenia
Trini Rosales	Johnny Martinez	Roy Barron
Michael Hernandez	Fred Faulk	Bill Bell
Hector Urbina	George Weikle	

## Awards medals

Continued from Page 1

That same mission applies to the Center for the Intrepid, Cody said. The center was made possible through private donations and the commitment of Arnold and Ken Fisher, a father-son team who head up the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund and the Fisher House Foundation.

Both the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund and the Fisher House Foundation are members of the Defense Department’s America Supports You program, which works to highlight ways in which Americans support U.S. troops, veterans and their families.

“Mission first is getting Soldiers like Sergeant Robles back on their feet; never quitting is his job; never accepting defeat is our job to help him; and never leaving a fallen comrade is what the Fisher House Foundation and the CFI Foundation (have done), and all of those great Americans who have donated their dollars and their hearts to let our Soldiers know that if you are wounded on the battlefield, we will stay with you,” Cody said.

Despite his injuries, Robles stood to receive his Bronze Star and Purple Heart, which Cody called a “badge of honor.”

“I hate giving out Purple Hearts, but I’m also proud to give out Purple Hearts because I know the pain and suffering that not only the Soldier goes through, but also his family in helping him in coming back, never quitting and giving him back his life.”

Regardless of their injuries, Cody said, many of the

Soldiers he meets profess their love of this country and the Army. “Most of them say, ‘General, can we stay in? I have so much to offer,’” he said.

The general said Robles asked him the same question. Cody gave his answer at the awards ceremony. “You have my commitment as vice chief of staff of the Army,” he said, “we’ll keep you in the Army as long as you want to stay.”

Robles, who has 17 years already under his belt, said he’s excited he will be able to complete a 20-year career. “It’s pretty amazing,” he said. “(Cody) even gave me his card.

“I couldn’t ask to be in a better place coming to Fort Sam Houston and Brooke Army Medical Center,” Robles said. “I can only imagine what will be accomplished once this place is fully open. Tomorrow is a big day for Fort Sam and all of the services.”

Along with the Center for the Intrepid, two new Fisher Houses opened Monday at Fort Sam Houston. The 21-room houses, which resemble an upscale hotel, provide a home away from home for families of wounded warriors.

“People ask me why we do what we do,” said Ken Fisher, chairman and CEO of the Fisher House Foundation. “Look to my left,” he said referring to



Photo by Cheryl Harrison

Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Richard A. Cody helps Master Sgt. Daniel Robles, who lost both his legs after an attack in Iraq, stand Sunday during the first awards ceremony at the Center for the Intrepid, a new, state-of-the-art rehabilitation center at Fort Sam Houston. Cody awarded Robles the Purple Heart and Bronze Star as his wife, Ernestine; daughter, Mary; and Bill White (far right), president of the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund, look on.

Robles. “Can you imagine this sergeant going through his rehab and not having his family with him? This is exactly why we do what we do.”



# Be prepared for tax appointment

**By Brian J. Novak**  
Director, Fort Sam Houston Military Tax Assistance Center

Tax season is in full swing at the Fort Sam Houston Military Tax Assistance Center. The Main Office, located in Building 133 on Liscum Road (behind the Legal Office), has the capacity to prepare 70 federal returns a day during the week and 40 federal returns Saturdays.

While the MTAC can prepare 320 federal returns each week, taxpayers should not delay in scheduling their appointment once they have received all the documents needed to prepare their return. Appointments are filling up fast, and callers should expect a couple of days wait from the time they called until their appointment.

Once all tax documents are in hand, call 295-1040 or 295-0061 to schedule an appointment. The Main Office is closed Mondays and is open for tax preparation Tuesdays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Walk-in service during normal business hours is available for people filing a 1040EZ.

Once an appointment is set, there are steps people can take to ensure they will be ready to prepare their 2006 income taxes. First, visit the MTAC’s Web site at [www.samhouston.army.mil/tax](http://www.samhouston.army.mil/tax) and print out and complete the Intake Form. People also should bring their official ID or

documentation of Social Security number as well as the Social Security number of their spouse and all dependents. The MTAC must be able to confirm all Social Security numbers to complete tax returns.

Next, bring all W-2s, 1098s and 1099s. People may also need to bring information for their tax return that is not on a tax form. Moving expenses, paid alimony, contributions to an IRA or any other adjustments to income will need documentation to support these adjustments. People with dependent care expenses should bring documentation of the care provider’s name, address, Social Security or tax ID number and the amount that was paid to the provider during 2006.

People who purchased a home in 2006 will need to bring a HUD-1 in addition to any 1098s received from the mortgage company. If itemizing deductions, provide documentation for unreimbursed medical and dental expenses, state income, real estate, personal property and other taxes paid during 2006. Taxpayers also need documenta-

tion for gifts to charity, casualty and theft losses, and unreimbursed employee expenses.

Taxpayers are also encouraged to bring their 2005 tax return since it may assist the tax center with this year’s preparation. Finally, if people want to have their refund direct-deposited into their checking or savings account, bring a checkbook or other documentation of bank account number and bank’s routing number.

For more information, call 295-1040 or 295-0061 or visit [www.samhouston.army.mil/tax](http://www.samhouston.army.mil/tax).

## ***BAMC tax center to open***

The Brooke Army Medical Center Military Tax Assistance Center will open next week. The MTAC will be located in the fifth floor pediatric unit in BAMC.

The BAMC MTAC will have six full-time staff members and the capacity to prepare at least 30 tax returns a day. The BAMC center is geared toward assisting the eligible BAMC staff and patients with their income tax returns.

Both the Main Office and the BAMC MTAC will also support wounded warriors staying at the Center for the Intrepid, the Fisher Houses and the Powless Guest House.

The BAMC MTAC will be open Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tax returns will be completed on an “appointment-only” basis with the exception of taxpayers who only need to file a 1040EZ. The 1040EZ filers will be assisted on a first-come, first-served walk-in basis. For more information, call 916-1040.

(Source: MTAC)

# DPW workers

*Continued from Page 4*

Col. Wendy Martinson. The awards varied from \$50 to \$300 depending on the level of support during the big freeze.

“I appreciate the fact you are dedicated enough to come here and make life better for those who live here,” Waldrop said. “We truly appreciate your efforts.”

Sisk said he also greatly appreciated the workers’ dedication.

“I walked out of my house that day

and slid backing out of my driveway. I didn’t even chance getting on the roads,” he said. “So, I called Mike Gann, from Roads and Grounds, and asked him if he was able to get in. He told me, ‘We’ve been here since 6:30 a.m.’

“You came in and showed this organization proud,” he said. “And we are very grateful you did.”



Courtesy photo

Mike Waldrop, deputy to the U.S. Army Garrison commander, congratulates Danny Mendoza for his “on the spot” award while Michael Grizer, director of Public Works, looks on. Mendoza was one of 50 employees from the Department of Public Works who received an award for coming into work despite the ice storm which shut down most of the city Jan. 16 and 17.



Photo by Cheryl Harrison

## Seeking job prospects

Nancy Torres, of J.P. Morgan Chase Banking Services, was able to answer questions from Command Sgt. Maj. Tim Burke about potential employment with their company. Twenty-two companies were available at the “Military2Civilian” job fair Jan. 25 at the Sam Houston Club. The job fair, hosted by civilianjobs.com, pre-registered interested personnel before the fair, which saved job searchers time and pre-matched them to prospective employers.



Photo by Cheryl Harrison

## High tech

University of Phoenix representative, Darryl Jones, aids Pvt. Simone Davis with paperwork needed to register for detailed information. The Sam Houston Club was abuzz with activity Jan. 25 for the 2007 Fort Sam Houston Technology Exposition. About 30 exhibitors were on hand to demonstrate the latest in gadgetry and equipment needed for the workplace.

# Commissaries offer recipes, healthy choices for Super Bowl treats

**By Kay Blakley**  
Home Economist, Defense Commissary Agency

**Fort Lee, Va.** – Just a few weeks ago, a lot of people resolved to start the year off right by dropping a few pounds and leading a healthier lifestyle. Now they are faced with yet another celebration calling for good food – Super Bowl. Inviting a houseful of football-crazed friends to cheer your team to victory is hard enough, but eliminating the tasty snacks that accompany the event is unthinkable.

Don’t despair! By making informed choices, scrumptious Super Bowl treats can still be served without putting too serious a dent into the weight loss and healthy lifestyle progress you’ve made.

Fruit and vegetable trays from a commissary produce department, for example, are excellent choices. So are deli trays filled with low-fat, low-sodium meats and cheeses. Even though deli selections are typically freshly sliced and wrapped for your convenience, most items do

have nutrition labels on the package, so ask to see these when deciding what you want on your tray.

Offer a selection of whole grain breads or buns alongside the deli tray. Be careful, though, when it comes to the condiments to slather on those breads, almost all varieties of mustard are nearly calorie free, but not so with mayonnaise. Use a fat-free or low-fat variety, or if you don’t like the taste, use full-fat versions very sparingly.

Yes it is true, game-time treats like chips and dips usually mean highly processed, high in fat and high in calories. But it does not have to be with the following pico de gallo recipe (see box at right). An entire batch has only about 90 calories. At that rate, it could be eaten with a spoon! It’s good enough to eat it that way, so be sure to double or triple the recipe.

Keep the fat count low by baking your own corn tortilla chips. There’s nothing to it; simply slice ready-made corn tortillas into wedges and pop them into the oven for a few minutes. But the aroma wafting from your kitchen says you’re baking a gastronomic delight.

If none of these suggestions strike your fancy, how does North Carolina-style barbecue made with lean, low-calorie chicken breasts sound or California guacamole or layered taco bean dip? Visit Kay’s Kitchen page at <http://www.commissaries.com> for the recipes, and stop by the commissary for all the ingredients.

By opting for healthier low-fat choices, not only will one team be a loser on Super Bowl Sunday, but so will you.

### Pico de Gallo

*1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro  
2 green onions, thinly sliced  
2 large ripe tomatoes, chopped  
1 teaspoon or more, to taste, minced garlic  
Combine all ingredients in a small bowl and serve.*



# Post Pulse:

## The Super Bowl is Sunday. Do you have any plans for game time?



*"I'm going to watch the game with friends."*  
**Bobby Dean**



*"I won't be watching the game. I'll probably be doing housework."*  
**Janie Sanchez**



*"Probably barbecue with one of my sons."*  
**Jose Mesa and 3-year-old grandson, D'Angelo Mesa**



*"I'm going to go to the Hacienda (Recreation Center) and just hang out with friends."*  
**Pvt. Siobhan Bujac**

**BOSS Super Bowl party**

The Fort Sam Houston Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers organization will host a Super Bowl party Sunday from 5 to 8:30 p.m. at the Hacienda Recreation Center. The game will be broadcast on a theater-size screen. The event is open to advanced individual training and initial entry training Soldiers authorized to use the Hacienda. The event will

include halftime games, food and beverage, and door prizes.

**USO Super Bowl party**

The United Services Organization in San Antonio will host a men's-only Super Bowl party Sunday starting at 4:30 p.m. for wounded male service members, husbands of deployed service members and husbands of service mem-

bers receiving medical treatment at Brooke Army Medical Center or Wilford Hall Medical Center. The food will be donated by Taco Cabana Catering. USO will have a big screen TV on hand for watching the game. The event is limited to 50 men, so people should call to reserve as soon as possible. For more information or reservations, call 227-9373, ext. 12.

**Fore . . .**

Brooke Army Medical Center Commander Brig. Gen. James Gilman takes a practice swing before teeing off at the 36th Annual Commander's Cup Tournament Jan. 26 at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Course.



Photo by Jennifer Morris



Photo by Lt. Col. Patricia Darnauer

**Are you ready for some football?**

Col. John Cook, 32nd Medical Brigade commander and referee, conducts a coin toss with Lt. Marcos Martinez, from the 264th/HHD team, and Maj. Herman Haggray, from the 232nd/187th team, Sunday during the 32nd Medical Brigade's annual "Ultimate Football Game" for brigade members and their families at Staff Post. The 232nd/187th team won the game. Cook hosted and refereed the game for cadre members from throughout the brigade, who enjoyed fellowship and great weather.

Sports Briefs . . .

*Intramural volleyball*

Letters of intent for intramural men’s, women’s and coed volleyball are due today. Send letters to Earl Young, 1212 Stanley Road, Suite 20, Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-5020, or e-mail earl.young@samhouston.army.mil. A coaches and rules meeting will be held Monday at 1 p.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. The season begins Feb. 12. For more information, call 221-1180 or 221-1234.

*Intramural racquetball*

Letters of intent for intramural racquetball are due Monday. Send letters to Earl Young at 1212 Stanley Road, Suite 20, Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-5020, or e-mail earl.young@samhouston.army.mil. A coaches and rules meeting will be held Feb. 9 at 1 p.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. The season begins Feb. 13. For more information, call 221-1180 or 221-1234.

*All-Army sports program*

If interested in participating in the All-Army Sports Program, the Department of the Army Sports Office offers an online application process that gives Soldiers the opportunity to submit applications from anywhere in the world and

track them as they are being processed. The All-Army online application program is a Web-based information system that allows any Soldier with Internet access to apply for any All-Army sport. Visit <https://armysports.cfsc.army.mil> for a direct link to the All-Army application process. For more information, visit <http://www.armymwr.com/portal/recreation/sportsandfitness/application> or call the All-Army Sports Office at 1-888-875-7529.

*Ice hockey players needed*

Ice hockey players of all skill levels are invited to play. For more information, call Jason Hess at 977-3210.

*Women’s basketball players needed*

The Fort Sam Houston women’s basketball team needs players. For more information, call Earl Young at 221-1180.

*Cardio-kickboxing*

Cardio-kickboxing classes are offered Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 7 p.m. at the 32nd Medical Brigade Gym. The classes are free. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Sonja Sharp at 221-3744 or e-mail sonja.m.sharp@amedd.army.mil.

Troop Salute  
232nd Medical Battalion



**Soldier of the Week**

**Name:** Pvt. Elizabeth Lane  
**Unit:** C Company  
**Time in service:** Seven months  
**Future goals:** To graduate advanced individual training and go airborne.  
**Reason for joining the Army:** To travel, meet new people and help others in need.  
**Latest accomplishment:** Received Emergency Medical Training, B Status.



**Junior Leader of the Week**

**Name:** Pvt. Aaron Remson  
**Unit:** C Company  
**Time in service:** Six months  
**Future goals:** To graduate advanced individual training, and to return home, enroll in college and get a law enforcement and paramedic position.  
**Reason for joining the Army:** I enlisted to fine tune myself, sharpen my skills, provide a better life for my family and serve my country.  
**Latest accomplishment:** Received my NREMT-B status

For the chapel services schedule,  
visit  
[www.samhouston.army.mil/chaplain](http://www.samhouston.army.mil/chaplain).



Fort Sam Houston  
Independent School District  
Weekly Calendar  
Monday through Feb. 10  
National School Counseling Week

Fort Sam Houston Elementary School

**Tuesday**  
Western Days  
Second grade – Rooms 30, 49 and 50, 8 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.  
Third grade – Rooms 6, 7 and 8, 10:15 a.m. to 11 a.m.  
Fourth grade – Rooms 20, 21 and 22, 11 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.  
First grade – Rooms 25, 26 and 27, 1 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.  
Kindergarten – Rooms 12, 13 and 14, 1:45 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
Progress reports sent home  
Early dismissal – kindergarten through fourth grade, 2 p.m.  
Early dismissal – fifth and sixth grade, 2:45 p.m.  
**Feb. 8**  
National Association of Educational Progress Test for fourth graders  
**Feb. 9**  
Western day  
Second grade - Rooms 51 and 52, 8 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.  
Third grade - Rooms 9, 10 and 11, 10:15 a.m. to 11 a.m.  
Fourth grade - Rooms 59 and 60, 11 a.m. to 11:45  
Pre-kindergarten - Rooms 17, 18, 47 and 45, 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.  
First grade - Rooms 5, 28 and 29, 1 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.  
Kindergarten – Rooms 15 and 16, 1:45 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
Spirit day

Robert G. Cole Jr./Sr. High School

**Tuesday**  
Girls basketball at S. A. Hawkins, 5 and 6:30 p.m.  
Boys varsity basketball vs. S. A. Hawkins at Antioch Sports Complex at Walters and Eross, 8 p.m.  
**Feb. 8**  
Poetry Slam – mall area  
Go Rodeo chili cook-off, both lunches  
Baseball at Poth, 5 p.m.  
**Feb. 9**  
Boys basketball vs. Cotulla, 6 and 7:30 p.m.  
Seventh and eighth grade Valentine’s dance, 4 to 5:45 p.m.  
**Feb. 10**  
ACT test date  
UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest at Sam Houston High School, TBA  
One-act play rehearsal in gym, 1 to 4 p.m.  
Senior class/parent post party

Winter royalty shines at Cole JROTC military ball

By Cadet 1st Lt. Brittany Maas  
Battalion Public Affairs Officer

With a radiant silver theme reminiscent of the recent San Antonio ice storm, Cole High School’s Junior ROTC Cougar Battalion enjoyed the 39th Annual Military Ball Jan. 20. Held at the Holiday Inn Riverwalk Hotel, the ball featured all the trappings of a formal affair: a receiving line, toasts, great food, awards and promotions, the crowning of a queen and a fabulous dance.

Cadet Lt. Col. Roy Aviles, battalion commander, opened the ceremony and assisted with the presentation of awards. Also presenting awards were Dr. Gail Siller, superintendent of Fort Sam Houston Independent School District, Senior Army Instructor retired Lt. Col. Robert Hoffmann and Army Instructor retired Sgt. 1st Class John Clinton Jr.

Candidates for Military Ball Queen included five Cole senior JROTC cadets voted on by the battalion. The candidates represented the four companies and staff.

The A Company Princess, Sgt. Whitney Miller, is a member of the Cole track team and recipient of the Cole Citizenship Award. Miller plans to attend a local college after graduation.

First Sgt. Yaritsis Sepulveda represented B Company. Sepulveda is a member of the varsity volleyball team and hopes to work with the FBI.

C Company was represented by Sgt. WylIntray Watts. Watts’ plans include joining the Air Force after graduating from college.


Assistant Battalion Xiomara Martinez represented D Company. Martinenz is accomplished in martial arts and a dancer. Her goal is to dance for the American Ballet Theater in New York.



Courtesy photo  
Cole Junior ROTC Military Ball Queen for 2007, Allison Erickson (center), celebrates the evening festivities with her court (from left) Xiomara Martinez, Whitney Miller, WylIntray Watts and Yaritsis Sepulveda.

Allison Erickson, JROTC Battalion Executive Officer, staff representative, was voted the JROTC Military Ball Queen for 2007. Erickson is a member of the National Honor Society, varsity volleyball, cross country, tennis and soccer teams, and a Wendy’s High School Heisman Award nominee. Awarded a four-year Army ROTC scholarship to Texas Christian University, Erickson would like to write for “National Geographic” magazine, following a military career.

Freshman Cadet Pvt. 1st Class Brittany Starr said about her first military ball, “I am not one for dances, in fact I really don’t like to go to dances, but the Military Ball changed that. I really had a great time and would love to do it again.”



**Parade tickets for sale**

The Cole Cougar Pride Club is selling parade tickets for the upcoming 2007 Battle of Flowers Parade April 27 and the Fiesta Flambeau Parade April 28.

The seats are located along the 100th block of East Commerce Street, adjacent to the park in front of San Fernando Cathedral. The area has easy accessibility to parking and food vendors. Tickets are \$8 and all proceeds will benefit the students of Robert G. Cole Jr./Sr. High School and Project Graduation. To purchase tickets, call Randy Teeter at 296-9071.



# Robert G. Cole Jr./Sr. High School honor roll

**A Honor Roll**  
**Second Nine Weeks**

**Seventh Grade**

Megan Ahearne  
Alexius Bennett  
Jasmine Boothe  
Jonathan Brokso  
Naomi Cabrero  
Meagan Garcia  
Molly Gresenz  
Kayla Larvins  
Teasha Reed  
William Taliaferro  
**Eighth Grade**  
Haley Benjamin  
Katelyn Juni  
Taylor Kane

Gretchen Newcomer  
Megan Renz  
Megan Rush  
**Ninth Grade**  
Yeralis Cabrero-Rivera  
Troy Griffith  
Eric Rolfe  
**10th Grade**  
Clara Buchanan  
Casey Gresenz  
**11th Grade**  
Caitlin Mester  
Patrick Newcomer  
Lukas Sheridan  
**12th Grade**  
Anne Cenney  
Stephen Sult

**A/B Honor Roll**  
**Second nine weeks**

**Ninth Grade**  
Joseph Bradley  
Diondra Gardner  
Gabriel Gunter  
Kristin Hutson  
Justin Langford  
Craig Layton, Jr.  
Arturo Lopez  
Emily Martin  
John Michna  
Devin Nesmith  
Trevor Richardson  
Micheal Sees  
Kaitlin Sheridan  
Brittany Starr

Christopher Staton  
Karen Thompson  
Melissa Townsend  
C Christopher Von Fahnestock  
**10th Grade**  
Coria` Bowen  
Ryan Brock  
Kelsey Charlton  
Samantha Collins  
Molly Granai  
Elishia Harris  
William Kirk  
Zachary Quintana  
Kaitlin Vasquez  
Steven Wade  
Quintia Watts  
**11th Grade**  
Jessica Bagg

Bryan Bauman  
Tabitha Fielder  
Timothy Fletcher  
Jennifer Gibson  
Daniel Heaney  
Megan Heard  
Jessica Jordan  
Wesley Lavender  
Jordan Maney  
Taylor Richardson  
Ricardo Riera II  
Emily Roberts  
Jennifer Sees  
Tomecka Siebert  
**12th Grade**  
D`dra Almuina  
Roy Aviles  
Aaron Bailey

Kathryn Bruce  
Ryan Boyles  
Alexander Dochnal  
Cshakenah Fisher  
Brendan Ford  
Amber Grayson  
Christopher Huffman  
Thomas Leeds  
Lionel Lowery  
Cameron Lucke  
Whitney Miller  
Lisa Nieves  
Nathaniele Otto  
Dianisse Plaza  
Melissa Poe  
Benjamin Reitstetter  
Kurt Walker

***Valentine’s party for residents***

An after-school Valentine’s bowl will be held Monday from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center. Children from all villages are welcome. Children can create their own Valentine’s Day cards at the arts and crafts booth and popcorn, candy and soda will be served. The event is free and for family housing residents only. Today is the deadline for reservations. For more information, call 270-7638.

## Child and Youth Services

***Cowboy breakfast***

The Child Development Center will host the first Cowboy Breakfast for parents and children Feb. 8 from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. For more information, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

***CYS talent show***

The second annual Child and Youth Services Talent Show will be held Feb. 17 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Roadrunner Community Center, Building 2797. Talent categories include dance, vocals, step, comedy and more. The public is invited to watch Fort Sam Houston’s youth ages 3 to 18 display their talents. For more information, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

***Parent Advisory Council meeting***

The Child and Youth Services Parent Advisory Council will meet Feb. 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Child

Development Center. Lunch will be provided. All CYS patrons are encouraged to attend. This is an opportunity to meet the staff and learn of upcoming events and parent education opportunities.

***Sports registration requirements***

Registration for any Child and Youth Services sports requires a current sport physical and shot records for children fifth grade and younger; two local emergency designees; \$18 registration fee; activity fee; the child’s Social Security number; sponsor’s Leave and Earnings Statement and spouse’s W-2 form. Patrons who do not provide income verification will be placed in the highest income category.

***Intermittent childcare***

Child and Youth Services provides hourly care for families seeking intermittent childcare. Children must be registered with CYS. Care is based on availability and must be reserved in advance. School Age Services offers five to 10 free hours of open recreation to registered SAS users Monday through Friday from 3 to 6 p.m. for first through fifth

grade children and must not exceed two days per week. For more information, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

***Instructors needed for SKIES***

The Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills seeks instructors in the following areas: dance, swimming, cooking, self-defense, art, voice, gymnastics, ceramics, stained glass, basic automobile, rollerskating, SAT/ACT preparation, astronomy, basic budgeting, science exploration, languages and sewing. SKIES instructors must successfully pass background clearances, be current in infant, child and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid. Classes will be taught at Fort Sam Houston for ages 3 through 18, when age appropriate. For more information, call 221-0497.

***Off-post childcare options***

The Army Child Care in Your Neighborhood program offers military families more childcare options in the local community. There are two childcare centers and 25 civilian providers in areas surrounding Fort Sam Houston for use by local Army families. The centers and providers are monitored to ensure they meet Army standards. For more information or to inquire about childcare, call Family Service Association at 299-2480 or Fort Sam Houston Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

***FCC providers***

Family Child Care is looking for family members interested in becoming certified FCC providers. There is a no-cost start-up plan. For more information, call 221-3820 or 221-3828.



Community Recreation

Post garage sale

A post garage sale will be held Saturday from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the MacArthur Pavilion parking lot. There is no cost to participate, but individuals selling items must pre-register. A valid Department of Defense ID card is required to participate. Participants must bring their own tables to the event or may rent them from the Outdoor Equipment Center by calling 221-5225. To register or for more information, call 221-2601 or 221-2523

Red Cross lifeguard training

The next Red Cross lifeguard class will begin Feb. 11 at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center pool. The training consists of four sessions to be held Feb. 11, 12, 17 and 18 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The certification is a minimum requirement for employment as a lifeguard. Participates must be at least 15 years old and pass a pre-test that consists of a 500-meter swim and a 20-yard swim holding a 10-pound object. The cost is \$185 and includes all books, first-aid instruction, cardiopulmonary resuscitation mask and CPR AED for infant, child and adults. Payment is not required until after the pre-test is passed. For more information, call 221-1234..

Transfer home movies to DVD

The Arts and Crafts Center at Lackland Air Force Base can transfer 8 mm home movies to DVDs. The cost is \$7.50 per hour plus the cost of the disc. For more information, call 671-2515 or 671-2269.

Paintball adventure

For information on organized paintball activities or future tournaments and events, call outdoor recreation at Lackland Air Force Base at 925-5532.

Woodworking hobbies, projects

Visit the Wood Skills Center at Randolph Air Force Base for all woodworking needs.

Customers can select from a variety of finished products such as flag boxes, coin holders and shadow boxes or other unique items can be special ordered. In addition, the wood center’s staff can assist do-it-yourself carpenters with their individual projects. After certification on the Wood Skills Center equipment, patrons can use the facility located in Building 895 to make all of their woodworking projects. For more information on the Beginners Woodworking Class or parent and child classes, call 652-7422.

Dining and Entertainment

Sam Houston Club, 224-2721

Family-style Sunday brunch

Brunch is held the first and third Sunday of each month. The next brunch will be held Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club. The brunch features a kids’ meal station, a chocolate fondue station, complimentary champagne and an international food station. The cost is \$13.95 for nonmembers, \$11.95 for members and \$7.95 for children 6 to 11 years old. Children 5 years old and under eat free. For more information, call 224-2721.

Valentine dinner buffet, dance

The Sam Houston Club will host a Valentine’s Day dinner buffet and dance Feb. 14 from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Enjoy romantic dining ambiance and dancing to the sounds of Triple Nickel. The cost is \$29.95 per couple. Reservations are encouraged. To make reservations or for more information, call 224-2721.

Big Bucks Bingo

Big Bucks Bingo offers a guaranteed prize money pool of \$10,300 Saturday at the Sam Houston Club. The doors open at 12:30 p.m. For more information, call 224-2721.

Golf Club, 221-4388

Warriors Scramble golf tournament

Register up to four players for the

Warriors Monthly Scramble held the first Wednesday of each month at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Club. The next tournament will be held Wednesday with a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start time. The entry fee is \$20 per person and includes cart rental, prizes and a social following the scramble. Participants must be in an authorized pass or leave status. To register or for more information, call 222-9386.

Bowling Center, 221-3683

Quick-Play bingo

Quick-Play bingo units are available at the Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center. Quick-Play is a personal handheld device that allows patrons to play bingo by using simple touch-screen technology. Choose up to four bingo cards to play at the same time. Each unit is lightweight and easy to use. The device can be used by bingo enthusiasts who want to play alone at a time convenient to them or by bowling center patrons awaiting their chance to bowl. For more information, call the bowling center at 221-3683.

Harlequin Dinner Theatre, 222-9694

The Agatha Christie mystery, “The Mousetrap,” will be performed at the Harlequin Dinner Theatre through Feb. 17. Performance tickets are \$24.95 Wednesdays and Thursdays and \$27.95 Fridays and Saturdays. Doors open for salad bar and cocktails at 6:15 p.m. with a buffet from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The play begins at 8 p.m. Military discounts are available. To make reservations or for more information, call 222-9694.

MWR Ticket Office, 221-1663

Tickets for the 2007 San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo are on sale at the MWR Ticket Office located inside the Sam Houston Club. The Rodeo will be held today through Feb. 18. The ticket office is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 226-1663 or 224-2721.

Coushatta Casino Resort trip

The MWR Ticket Office and the Sam Houston Club will sponsor a trip to the Coushatta Casino Resort in Kinder, La. The bus will depart from the Sam Houston Club Feb. 13 at 7 a.m. and return Feb. 14 at 10 p.m. The cost is \$49 per person and includes roundtrip motor coach transportation, overnight hotel accommodations, continental breakfast at hotel and one \$23 coupon from the casino. Participants must be at least 21 years old and possess a valid photo ID at all times. Make reservations at the ticket office by Wednesday. For more information, call 226-1663 or 224-2721.

Army Community Service

Sibling rivalry class

Learn ways to encourage harmony between siblings at the Family Advocacy Program’s new Sibling Rivalry Class. The class will teach reasons kids fight, what to do when they fight and how to create positive feelings between them. For more information or to register, call 221-0349 or 221-0326.

Blended families class

The Family Advocacy Program will sponsor a new class on the dynamics of the blended family relationship. The class provides information on the myths of the step-family dynamic, the role of a step-parent and what to avoid in a new marriage. For more information or to register, call 221-0349 or 221-0326.

Single parenting class

The Family Advocacy Program will present a new class for single parents. The Single Parenting Class teaches parenting skills and guidance to prepare a plan of action to enrich the single parent lifestyle. For more information or to register, call 221-0349 or 221-2055.





Photo by Cheryl Harrison

The front entrance of the Center for the Intrepid leads directly back to an exit into a courtyard only steps away from the new Fisher Houses III and IV. The walkway displays names of contributors and is a peaceful stroll to the two new

houses. A sculpture depicting a broken circle, cracked but still intact, adorns the terrace which has an overall feel of “village.”

## Intrepid opens

Continued from Page 1

“This is a red-letter day for this country and for the 600,000 Americans who have contributed a dollar, some more than a million dollars, to make sure our young men and women who have given so much to this country are aware the American people care about them,” said Arnold Fisher, chairman of the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund. “They are our national treasure.”

Dozens of wounded warriors joined more than 3,000 guests at the grand opening. The guest list included Sens. Hillary Clinton and John McCain, country group Big & Rich, Rosie O’Donnell, Michelle Pfeiffer, producer David E. Kelley and top military leaders from all branches of service. Rock music star John Mellencamp performed during the ceremony.

Although the audience was packed with the top military leaders and Hollywood celebrities, the wounded warriors received the longest round of applause, along with a standing ovation.

“It’s amazing, truly amazing. It really shows the American people care,” said wounded warrior Staff Sgt. Daniel Barnes, a bilateral amputee.

The four-story, 60,000-square-foot center was designed for wounded warriors like Barnes. Equipped with the latest rehabilitation technology, it is a potential athlete’s dream. The facility includes an indoor running track, firing range, pool, two-story climbing wall, prosthetic center and a computer assisted rehabilitation environment known as CAREN.

The environment comprises a dome with a 4-meter platform and screen, simulating everything from a city sidewalk to a day on the lake so patients can improve their gait and balancing skills. The unit is one of nine in the world and the only one in the United States.

“What you see before you is a monument built by contributions by 600,000 Americans,” Fisher said. “This is a monument to not only the men and women and their families who will come here, but a monument to the generosity of our citizens and their love for those who serve.”

The center will initially cater to amputees and burn patients injured in the Global War on Terrorism, but is hoped to expand to encompass retirees, family members and veterans.

“This is my son’s (Ken Fisher) and my commitment, and our mission,” Fisher said.

“We’ll continue this as long as it’s necessary. Our only wish is that a place like this someday, it will become a garage.”

The two new Fisher Houses bring the on-post total to four. Fisher Houses serve as a home away from home for families of patients receiving medical care at major military and Veterans Affairs medical centers.

The 21-room homes are built in the newer Fisher



Photo by U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. D. Myles Cullen

Wounded Soldiers arrive for the opening of the Center for the Intrepid.



Photo by U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. D. Myles Cullen  
Deputy Defense Secretary Gordon England speaks during the official dedication of the Center for the Intrepid.

House style, with a sprawling 16,800 square feet, as opposed to 5,000-plus square feet. Families will be able to live in comfort and style as they care for their loved ones at BAMC in homes that more closely resemble a Malibu mansion than temporary military housing. Each home has a kitchen even Martha Stewart would love, a formal dining room, several sitting rooms and elegant bedrooms equipped with DVD/VCR systems and flat-screen TVs.

“What a privilege it is to render assistance to military families,” said Ken Fisher, chairman of the Fisher House Foundation.

Pace echoed the sentiment. “Thank you to the families — families of the fallen, families of the wounded; you sacrifice in ways that people who have not walked in your shoes can only imagine. When we are wounded, you are there to help put us back together. Those of you who are family members of fallen and of wounded have served this country as well as anyone who has ever worn the uniform.”



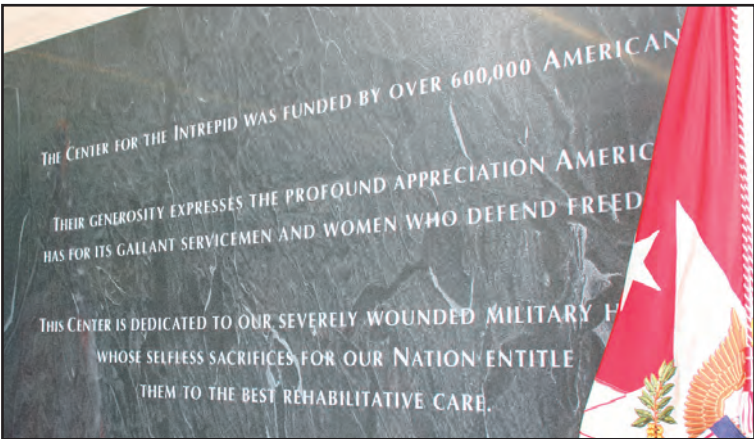


Photo by Cheryl Harrison

The lobby of the Center for the Intrepid displays a 4,500 pound granite donor recognition wall with words to remind visitors and patients of the soldiers' legacy of strength, resiliency and resolve.



Photos by Cheryl Harrison

(Above) Justin Laferrer, physical therapist at the Center for the Intrepid, demonstrates the flowrider, which is in the natatorium at the center. The flowrider machine jet propels a water stream over a stretched canvas, creating an inclusive and exhilarating activity for most amputees that is safe to practice bodyboarding and surfing.

John Inzima, physical therapy staff assistant, demonstrates the challenges of the 21-foot climbing wall in the new rehabilitation center. The wall promotes strengthening, agility and aerobic conditioning.



Photo by Cheryl Harrison

A rousing musical performance by the United States Army Band, "Pershing's Own" got the crowd of about 3,000 in a mood for celebration and anticipation for the opening of the Center for the Intrepid.

Ty Ziegel cuts the ribbon to officially open Fisher Houses III and IV. Actress Michele Pfeiffer (left), also participated in the ceremony.



Photo by Cheryl Harrison

Ty Ziegel, a wounded warrior, and his mother, Becky, moved the spectators with their warm words of love, appreciation and heartfelt thanks to those still in recovery, those who have said goodbye and to the families they met whose Soldiers didn't make it.



Photo by Elaine Wilson



# Black History Month trivia contest

1. Julian Bond made this statement: “Violence is black children going to school for 12 years and receiving \_\_\_\_\_.”
2. Crispus Attucks was a black man and the first person killed in what war and what historical event is synonymous with his killing?
3. The Civil Rights Movement in the United States included many violent events. What event is known as Bloody Sunday?
4. Who organized the first blood bank project in 1941? His efforts saved thousands on the battlefield during World War II.
5. In 1994, the Land Loss Prevention Project filed a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit on behalf of black farmers. What was the intent of the lawsuit?

People should e-mail trivia contest answers to Gayle.Ellis@amedd.army.mil or deliver them in a sealed envelope addressed to Gayle Ellis, BEP committee member, Room 1335, Building 2841, no later than the Tuesday following the publication of the questions. The first person to submit the correct answers will win a prize and have their name published, along with the answers, in the next edition of the News Leader. For more information, call Ellis at 221-7709.

## Events

### Stars and Bars Formal Dining-In

The Lackland Air Force Base Company Grade Officers’ council will host the Annual Stars and Bars Formal Dining-In Friday at 5 p.m. at the Gateway Club, Lackland Air Force Base. The guest speaker will be Maj. Gen. Craig Koziol, commander, Air Intelligence Agency. The cost is \$25 and tickets must be purchased by Friday. Any officer, O-1 through O-3, serving in any branch of service is invited. The Medical Command Band will provide entertainment. For more information, call Lt. Bailey at 969-4033 or Capt. Schofield at 665-2141.

### MOAA travel show

The Military Officers Association of America, Alamo Chapter, will host a travel show Saturday from 4 and 6:30 p.m. in the Sam Houston Club, Building 1395, Chaffee Road. A free cruise give-away will be drawn at each show. For more information, call MOAA Vacations at 1-800-221-5107.

### Maverick Library book sale

The Maury Maverick Jr. Branch Library Book Sale will be held Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 8700 Mystic Park. The Friends of the Maverick Library will sponsor the event, with proceeds going toward special projects for the Maverick Library. Gently used books can be donated to the library for the book sale. For more information, visit [www.sanantonio/library/.gov](http://www.sanantonio/library/.gov).

### New Braunfels walk

The New Braunfels Marsch-und Wandergruppe Volksmarch Club will host a 5K and 10K walk Sunday beginning at the Visitor Center at the intersection of South Seguin – FM 725 and Interstate Highway 35. For more information, call Helgard Suhr-Hollis at 830-625-6330, e-mail [helgard@satx.rr.com](mailto:helgard@satx.rr.com) or visit [walktexas.org](http://walktexas.org).

### MOAA Sweetheart Dinner and Dance

The Military Officers Association of America, Alamo Chapter will host a Sweetheart Dinner and Dance Wednesday at the Randolph Officer’s Club, Randolph Air Force Base. The social hour will begin at 6 p.m. The cost for the event is \$25 per person. For more information or reservations, call 228-9955.

### Free Valentine’s Day message

Stars and Stripes is offering a free Valentine’s Day message posting service. Greetings will be published in the European, Pacific and Middle East editions of the Stars and Stripes and on Stripes.com Feb.13 and Feb. 14. To send a free message, visit Stripes.com and click on the “Valentine’s Day Message” button. Stars and Stripes will only publish messages written in English and received online by the Tuesday deadline.

### ‘The Mousetrap’ at Harlequin

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre presents “The Moustrap,” a mystery by Agatha Christie, through Feb. 17 Wednesday

through Saturday evenings. Prices are \$27.95 Fridays and Saturdays and \$24.95 Wednesdays and Thursdays. Military and students discounts are available. The house opens at 6:15 p.m., with shows beginning at 8 p.m. The box office is open weekdays from 12 to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 1 to 5 p.m. For more information or reservations, call 222-9694.

### MOAA luncheon

The Military Officers Association of America, Alamo Chapter will host a luncheon Feb. 22 at 11 a.m. at the Randolph Air Force Base Officer’s Club. The guest speaker will be retired Navy Reserve Capt. John W. Woody, the national president of The Gamewardens of Vietnam Association. The cost of the luncheon is \$15. For more information or reservations, call 228-9955 or e-mail [moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net](mailto:moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net).

### OCSC chocolate tour, massage

The Officer and Civilian Spouses’ Club will host a tour of the Schakolad Chocolate Factory, 19141 Stone Oak Parkway, Feb 23 beginning at 1 p.m. Massage sessions will also be offered at 2 and 3 p.m. The cost for a massage is \$39.99. The tour will meet at the commissary parking lot at 12 p.m. to car-pool. For more information or reservations before Feb. 20, call Alicia Utz or e-mail [A-to-z@earthlink.net](mailto:A-to-z@earthlink.net).

### SA Symphony military discounts

The San Antonio Symphony 2006-2007 concert series consists of 12 classical concerts, six pops concerts and four special events. The concerts are held Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. at the Majestic Theatre. Military discounts are available. For reservations, call Karen Cramer at 554-1000 or e-mail [cramerk@sasymphony.org](mailto:cramerk@sasymphony.org). For dates and feature artist, visit [www.sasymphony.org](http://www.sasymphony.org).

## Meetings

### SAMC study group

The Sergeant Audie Murphy Club, SMA Van Autreve Chapter, conducts a study group Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. in Building 1350 for Soldiers preparing for competition boards. For more information, call Master Sgt. Adrienne Berkley at 295-4545 or 737-4540 or e-mail [Adrienne.Berkley@us.army.mil](mailto:Adrienne.Berkley@us.army.mil); or call Sgt. 1st Class Tiffany Reid at 295-4442 or e-mail [Tiffany.reid@amedd.army.mil](mailto:Tiffany.reid@amedd.army.mil).

## Training

### Green to Gold briefings

The Fort Sam Houston Education Center will host Green to Gold briefings for Soldiers interested in the ROTC program today through March 7 at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the Army Learning Center, Building 2247, Stanley Road. The Army ROTC cadre from The University of Texas at San Antonio, along with the 12th ROTC Brigade Recruiting Office, will be present to conduct

the briefings and provide additional guidance. For more information, call 295-2005.

### GED classes

Employment Readiness offers General Equivalency Diploma classes Mondays and Wednesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Roadrunner Community Center, 1010 Stanley Road, Building 2797. A certified instructor teaches the classes and most colleges and employers accept a GED certificate the same as a high school diploma. For more information or registration, call 221-2705.

### Free dental assistant training

The 59th Dental Squadron at Lackland Air Force Base is accepting applications for the Red Cross Dental Assistant Program. Family members of active duty and retired military personnel who would like to become dental assistants may apply for the six-month training program. Applications will be accepted through March 8, with interviews March 12, 13 and 14 from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Cintron at 925-1846, e-mail [elizabeth.cintron@lackland.af.mil](mailto:elizabeth.cintron@lackland.af.mil) or [lacy.clemente@lackland.af.mil](mailto:lacy.clemente@lackland.af.mil).

### University of the Incarnate Word

A representative from the University of the Incarnate Word will be available Feb. 12 and 26 and March 12 and 26 from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Education Center, Room 201. For more information, call Vanessa Carrasco at 829-2769 or e-mail [vcarrasc@uiwtx.edu](mailto:vcarrasc@uiwtx.edu).

### St. Mary’s University education office

A St. Mary’s University representative is available Mondays through Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Building 2248, Room 206, to assist individuals interested in a master’s degree in teacher certification. For more information, call Iona Million at 226-3360.

### Army ROTC Lateral Entry Program

The Army ROTC program at The University of Texas at San Antonio is looking for individuals with prior military service or members of the National Guard or Reserve who wish to become officers. The Lateral Entry Program allows eligible students to contract into ROTC as cadets when they are academic juniors, seniors or graduate students with four semesters of coursework remaining before graduation. For more information, call Capt. Chez Varela at 458-5607, e-mail [chez.varela@utsa.edu](mailto:chez.varela@utsa.edu) or visit [www.armyrotc.utsa.edu/](http://www.armyrotc.utsa.edu/).

### Green to Gold program (UTSA)

The Army ROTC program at The University of Texas at San Antonio is seeking enlisted Soldiers who are interested in becoming Army officers upon completion of a bachelor’s degree. For more information, call Capt. Chez Varela at 458-5607, e-mail [chez.varela@utsa.edu](mailto:chez.varela@utsa.edu) or visit <http://www.armyrotc.utsa.edu/>.

### Financial readiness classes

Army Community Service will offer the

### Black History Month DVDs, videos

The Fort Sam Houston Museum has a variety of audiovisual materials available to support Black History Month activities to include “African Americans In World War II: A Legacy of Patriotism & Valor” on DVD, and “America’s Black Warriors: Two wars to Win,” on DVD and VHS. For more information or a full list of titles, call the Fort Sam Houston Museum at 221-1886.

### Black History Month observation

St. Phillips College presents Rachel L. Emanuel, director of publications and electronic media for the Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge, La., Friday from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Morgan Gallery of the Watson Fine Arts Center at St. Philip’s College, 1801 Martin Luther King Drive; then again at 12 p.m. at the Palo Alto College, 1400 W. Villaret Blvd., in the Performing Arts Building, Room 100A. Her documentary, “Taking a Seat for Justice,” chronicles the events of Southern University students who conducted sit-ins in protest of racial segregation laws. Both presentations are free and open to the public. For more information, call John Martin at 531-3241.

following financial readiness classes in January: “Understanding Your Credit Report,” “Financial Planning,” “Identity Theft” and “Checkbook Maintenance.” All classes are free and open to the public and begin at 2 p.m. in Building 2797, Training Room 1, 2010 Stanley Road. Class space is limited. For more information or to register, call 221-1612.

### Special Forces seeks applicants

The U.S. Army Special Forces invites male officers from “Year Group 04” to apply. Officer packets will be accepted through Feb. 15. Early submission is recommended. For more information, visit [www.bragg.army.mil/specialforces](http://www.bragg.army.mil/specialforces).

## Volunteer

### Endodontics patients needed

The Department of Endodontics at MacKown Dental Clinic on Lackland Air Force Base seeks patients who need root canal therapy. Applicants must be a military retiree, family member of a retiree or family member of active duty and have been recently diagnosed by a dentist as having an endodontic condition requiring root canal therapy. Patients should obtain a written consult from their referring dentist and fax it to 292-6431 or bring it the MacKown Dental Clinic during normal duty hours. For more information, call 292-7214.

### Denture patients needed

The Prosthodontics Department at Wilford Hall Medical Center seeks a limited number of patients who are need of new complete dentures. Applicants must be a military retiree, a family member of a retiree or a family member of an active duty military member and must have a need for a new set of complete dentures. Individuals enrolled in the Dependents’ Dental Plan are not eligible for treatment, unless they have exceeded their annual coverage. For more information, call 292-4208.

### Pediatric dental patients needed

The Pediatric Dental Department on Lackland Air Force Base will provide drop-in dental screenings Feb. 14 from 8 to 11 a.m. No appointment is required; however, children must be signed in by 10 a.m. Screenings will be held at the Lackland Skylark Community Center in the Longhorn Room, Building 6576, 1560 Luke Blvd. Dental screenings are available for all eligible military medical beneficiaries under age 12. Parents should bring a copy of their child’s treatment plan or referral letter from their private dentist. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Williams at 292-4072.

### Cub Scout leaders needed

The Cub Scouts of Fort Sam Houston, Pack 23 seeks adult volunteers to serve as committee members and den leaders. Adult leaders do not have to be parents of scouts, but must be at least 21 years old. For more information, call Eric Craig at 683-3469.



Submission guidelines:

Freebies are published on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline is noon Monday. Freebies are intended for personal household goods, and may only be submitted by active, retired or reserve military members and civilian employees working on Fort Sam Houston. Real estate ads will



not be published. To submit a Fort Freebie, e-mail [news.leader@samhouston.army.mil](mailto:news.leader@samhouston.army.mil) or fax to **221-1198**. Freebies run for one week unless submitter calls to renew. Limit of five items per entry. For more information, call 221-1031.

- For Sale:** Two Little Tykes race car beds, one twin size with toy box hood, red, \$125; one toddler size, blue, \$75. Call 497-0991.
- For Sale:** 1994 Chevrolet Corvette, red, tinted windows, leather seats, Pioneer system, 39,000 miles, \$18,000. Call 680-1079.
- For Sale:** 1993 Volvo 850, fully loaded, low mileage, \$2,100. Call 264-8141 or 671-4977.
- For Sale:** Treo 600 PDA phone complete with AC charger, car charger, GPS system, hands-free headset, \$75 obo. Call 573-9983.
- For Sale:** Boxer, male, five months old, house broken, has papers, loveable, \$350 obo; Boxer, female, five months old, house broken, \$300 obo. Call 825-1882 or 777-5004.
- For Sale:** Rocker recliner, neutral color, in good condition; computer work station, keyboard pull out, file drawer, locked section, like new. Call 656-6772.

- For Sale:** Infant crib, \$100; child’s desk, \$25; boy’s 20-inch bike, needs inner tube, \$20; girl’s 20-inch bike, \$20; old Avon bottles, prices vary. Call 826-0882.
- For Sale:** Wireless Cardbus Airplus G-54, new in box, good for wireless connection in laptops, \$40; Camera Canon Rebel EOS, \$150. Call 317-8304.
- For Sale:** RCA 61-inch rear projection TV, five years old, in excellent condition, \$700 obo. Call 310-1770, leave message.
- For Sale:** 1996 Chevrolet Suburban conversion, all power, includes TV, VCR and towing package, \$5,500; 1998 Aerolite travel trailer, self-contained, \$6,000. Call 630-3936.
- For Sale:** Jeep double stroller, like new, \$75; Eddie Bauer pack and play, only used one month, \$75; baby walker, \$5. Call 826-3791.
- Free To Good Home:** Four mixed-breed puppies. Call 393-2864.

Army Community Service  
Financial Readiness Class Schedule

Personal Financial Management

The class includes information on credit reports, maintaining budgets, and effective savings plans. The class will be held today and Feb. 6 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Understanding Your Credit Report

The class consists of pulling your individual credit report, reviewing, correcting and updating it. The class will be held Feb. 8 from 2 to 4 p.m.

*Classes are held in Building 2797, 2010 Stanley Road, Training Room 1. Class space is limited. To register for classes or for more information, call ACS Financial Readiness at 221-1612.*